

THE INDEPENDENT.

VOL. III.

HONOLULU, H. I., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1896.

No. 412.

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HONOLULU, H. I.

THE DARDANELLES

News From the Scene of Excitement

Rumors About the U. S. S. Bancroft to Pass Through and Proceed to Constantinople to Be at the Orders of U. S. Minister Terrell.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The closest inquiry fails to disclose any change in the policy of the State Department towards the Turkish question and in particular respecting the movements of the little dispatch boat Bancroft.

From the first, officials of both the State and Navy Departments have refused to state where the boat was going further than to make public the official orders to her commander. These orders directed him to report on his arrival at Gibraltar to Admiral Selfridge, commanding the European station, and take all further orders from him.

It can be stated positively, however, no orders have gone forward since the original instructions to Admiral Selfridge, nor are any on the way touching the future movements of the Bancroft.

The vessel, upon her arrival at Gibraltar, was ordered by Admiral Selfridge to proceed to Smyrna, and is due there in a day or two. The Cincinnati is also on the way to the same point.

At Smyrna are now assembled the flagship San Francisco, the Minneapolis and the Marblehead. The purpose of the gathering is to meet the Cincinnati and Bancroft, which bring out drafts of new men to take the places of the sailors on the station whose terms of enlistment are about to expire, for if they are kept longer the Government must pay them extra compensation. The men relieved are to be placed on the Marblehead, whose place on the station will be taken by the Cincinnati. The Marblehead will then come home.

Naval officers ridicule the idea that the Bancroft will undertake to force the passage of the Dardanelles, for this would be absolutely impossible singlehanded, and even if she succeeded she would be helpless when she arrived off Constantinople. The probability is that she has been sent to Turkey to serve whatever useful purpose she can, either as a dispatch boat to communicate between the larger vessels of the United States squadron, or to accommodate Minister Terrell.

That part of the Bancroft story alleging that the French fleet would co-operate in securing the passage of the Bancroft through the Dardanelles is absolutely without foundation. It can be stated on unquestioned diplomatic authority that no negotiations looking to such an end have ever been attempted.

The essential features of the entire story are discredited in diplomatic circles, which believe the published report originated in the fact that the Bancroft's admission to the Bosphorus is desired, and Minister Terrell will use the influence he possesses on the Porte to bring it about by peaceful methods, but will not persist if decided objection is made.

So far as the United States alone is concerned, the European powers have no objection to the presence of a dispatch boat in the Bosphorus. The objection arises solely from the

fact that it might establish a precedent for like demands from other nations.

London in Ignorance.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—Inquiries made at the Foreign Office here show that nothing is known there regarding the alleged intention of the United States Government to force a passage of the Dardanelles with the cruiser Bancroft, supported by the other vessels of the United States squadron in European waters.

It was further stated that no communication had been addressed to any of the foreign powers to support the United States in forcing a passage of the Dardanelles.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 14.—The little dispatch boat Bancroft of the United States navy, now about due at Smyrna, has not been ordered to force the passage through the Dardanelles with or without foreign aid. This can be stated on the direct authority of the President of the United States.

There is no doubt that the Bancroft is going to Constantinople just as fast as her steam can carry her, or just as soon as Minister Terrell makes a request upon Admiral Selfridge for her services as a guard-boat or dispatch boat in the same capacity as similar light-draught and light-armed dispatch boats are placed at the service of other friendly nations.

The United States is bound to have some answer from Turkey in regard to the destruction of American missions in Harpoot and Marash before the next Presidential message goes to Congress.

Business Cards

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TIME TABLE.

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Capt. J. A. KING, Port Supt.

Stmr. KINAU,

CLARKE, Commander.

Will leave Honolulu at 10 A. M., touching at Lahaina, Maui Bay and Makena the same day; Mahukona, Kawaihae and Laupahoehoe the following day; arriving at Hilo the same afternoon.

LEAVES HONOLULU.	ARRIVES HONOLULU.
*Friday..... " 30	Tuesday..... " 28
Tuesday..... Nov. 10	Friday..... Nov. 6
Friday..... " 20	Tuesday..... " 17
*Tuesday..... Dec. 1	Saturday..... " 28
Friday..... " 11	Tuesday..... Dec. 8
Tuesday..... " 22	Friday..... " 18
	Tuesday..... " 29

Returning will leave Hilo at 8 o'clock A. M., touching at Laupahoehoe, Mahukona and Kawaihae same day; Makena, Maui Bay and Lahaina the following day; arriving at Honolulu the afternoon of Tuesdays and Fridays.

Will call at Pooni, Puna, on trip marked *.

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No Freight will be received after P. M. on day of sailing.

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Consignees must be at the Landings to receive their freight; this Company will not hold itself responsible for freight after it has been landed.

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